

### **THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A method for hardware acceleration in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

creating at least one policy to be distributed among at least one of a plurality of access point groups;

associating said at least one policy only with a particular one of said plurality of access point groups; and

distributing said associated at least one policy to at least one access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising identifying said associated policy to be distributed to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, comprising conditioning selection of said identified policy upon occurrence of an event.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said distributing comprises distributing said identified policy to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups upon said occurrence of said event.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, comprising associating said at least one policy with a particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein said distributing comprises distributing said identified policy to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising communicating said at least one policy from at least one of a switch and a server to at least one access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, comprising broadcasting said at least one policy from said at least one of a switch and a server to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, comprising distributing said at least one policy using at least one messaging protocol message.

10. (Previously Presented) A non-transitory machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for hardware acceleration in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one code section executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps comprising:

creating at least one policy to be distributed among at least one of a plurality of access point groups;

associating said at least one policy only with a particular one of said plurality of access point groups; and

distributing said associated at least one policy to at least one access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

11. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 10, comprising code for identifying said associated policy to be distributed to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

12. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 11, comprising code for conditioning selection of said identified policy upon occurrence of an event.

13. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 12, wherein said distributing code comprises code for distributing said identified policy to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups upon said occurrence of said event.

14. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 13, comprising associating said at least one policy with a particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

15. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 14, wherein said distributing code comprises code for distributing said identified policy to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 10, comprising code for communicating said at least one policy from at least one of a switch and a server to said one or more access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 16, comprising code for broadcasting said at least one policy from said at least one of a switch and a server to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

18. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable according to claim 17, comprising code for distributing said at least one policy using at least one messaging protocol message.

19. (Previously Presented) A system for hardware acceleration in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

one or more circuits that are operable to create at least one policy to be distributed among at least one of a plurality of access point groups;

said one or more circuits are operable to associate said at least one policy only with a particular one of said plurality of access point groups; and

said one or more circuits are operable to distribute said associated at least one policy to at least one access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

20. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to identify said associated policy to be distributed to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

21. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to condition selection of said identified policy upon occurrence of an event.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to distribute said identified policy to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups upon said occurrence of said event.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to associate said at least one policy with a particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 23, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to distribute said identified policy to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to communicate said at least one policy from at least one of a switch and a server to said at least one access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to broadcast said at least one policy from said at least one of a switch and a server to said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 26, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to distribute said at least one policy using at least one messaging protocol message.

28. (Previously Presented) A method for hardware acceleration in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

creating at least one policy to be distributed among at least one of a plurality of access point groups;

associating said at least one policy only with a particular access point within a particular one of said plurality of access point groups; and

distributing said associated at least one policy only to said particular access point within said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, comprising identifying said associated policy to be distributed only to said particular access point.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, comprising conditioning selection of said identified policy upon occurrence of an event.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30, wherein said distributing comprises distributing said identified policy only to said particular access point upon said occurrence of said event.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, comprising communicating said at least one policy from at least one of a switch and a server to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, comprising broadcasting said at least one policy from said at least one of a switch and a server to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

34. (Previously Presented) A non-transitory machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for

hardware acceleration in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one code section executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps comprising:

creating at least one policy to be distributed among at least one of a plurality of access point groups;

associating said at least one policy only with a particular access point within a particular one of said plurality of access point groups; and

distributing said associated at least one policy only to said particular access point within said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

35. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 34, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for identifying said associated policy to be distributed only to said particular access point.

36. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 35, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for conditioning selection of said identified policy upon occurrence of an event.

37. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 36, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for distributing said identified policy only to said particular access point upon said occurrence of said event.

38. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 34, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for communicating said at least one policy from at least one of a switch and a server to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

39. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 38, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for broadcasting said at least one policy from said at least one of a switch and a server to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

40. (Previously Presented) A system for hardware acceleration in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

one or more circuits that are operable to create at least one policy to be distributed among at least one of a plurality of access point groups;

said one or more circuits are operable to associate said at least one policy only with a particular access point within a particular one of said plurality of access point groups; and

said one or more circuits are operable to distribute said associated at least one policy only to said particular access point within said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

41. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 40, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to identify said associated policy to be distributed only to said particular access point.

42. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 41, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to condition selection of said identified policy upon occurrence of an event.

43. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 42, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to distribute said identified policy only to said particular access point upon said occurrence of said event.



44. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 40, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to communicate said at least one policy from at least one of a switch and a server to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.

45. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 44, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to broadcast said at least one policy from said at least one of a switch and a server to said particular access point in said particular one of said plurality of access point groups.